

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

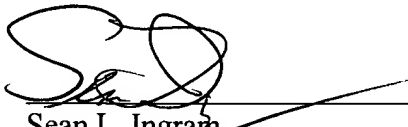
Applicants confirm with appreciation the receipt of the Notice of Allowability for the above-identified Application. In reply to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, Applicants respectfully submit that patentability is based on the subject matter of the claims as a whole. That is, the patentability of the claims rests on the combination of recited elements and limitations. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that no one element or limitation in particular should be deemed to impart to or be required for patentability of the claims.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 37, 40, 41, 42, and 43 are all separately patentable from each other and are patentable for the subject matter specifically recited as a whole in each of those claims.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975 (Ref. No. 042846-0312830). The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account. These comments are being filed before payment of the Issue Fee.

Dated: August 4, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sean L. Ingram  
Registration No.: 48,283

Customer No.  
00909

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP  
P.O. Box 10500  
McLean, Virginia 22102  
703-905-2000